

remarkable person. He has, in an extraordinary way, made enormous efforts to promote the life and mission of World War II hero Raoul Wallenberg. As a young Swedish diplomat, Wallenberg was responsible for saving nearly 100,000 Jews in Budapest from the horror of the Holocaust. This brave man disappeared in 1945, last seen going to meet with members of the Soviet army. Though many theories regarding his disappearance abound, the world continues to wait for answers regarding Wallenberg's fate. Mr. Tenenbaum is one of the most visible leaders in carrying on Raoul Wallenberg's name.

Mr. Speaker, even before Mr. Tenenbaum started to work for Raoul Wallenberg's cause he had lived an extraordinary life. He was devoted to supporting the Jewish community in Argentina and to creating a deeper understanding between Jews and Catholics worldwide. He was the First General Director of the Argentine-Israeli Cultural Institute and focused the majority of his efforts on educational endeavors. Some of his undertakings included founding the Tarbut School and organizing the first Latin American Bible contest. In addition, he translated Spanish classics and Haskala literature into Hebrew and Yiddish.

In 1966, together with writer Jorge Lues Borges, Tenenbaum founded the first interconfessional organization, Casa Argentina en Jerusalem (Argentine House in Jerusalem). This organization has received many distinctions on behalf of the Vatican for its work in promoting ecumenism. Tenenbaum's outstanding commitment to the Jewish and Catholic communities has earned him accolades and honors from Pope Paul VI and from Monsignor Antonio Caggiano, Cardinal Primate of Argentina.

Mr. Tenenbaum and I co-founded the International Raoul Wallenberg Foundation (IRWF) in 1997. Since then, we have worked tirelessly to make Raoul Wallenberg's story known around the world. Mr. Tenenbaum has personally convinced over 60 heads of states to become members of IRWF. Some members include German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, former U.S. President Gerald Ford, and Nobel Peace Prize Laureates Dalai Lama and Elie Wiesel.

Mr. Speaker, I know you will agree that preserving the memory of Raoul Wallenberg is very important. Wallenberg is a truly timeless role model for all generations, representing an ideal sense of selflessness and caring of all people. He taught us about the importance of standing up for the immutable rights of all people and the need to combat evil when it confronts us. Wallenberg will always serve as a reminder of the tremendous difference just one man can make, and keeping his spirit alive means ensuring and preserving the spirit of humanity. In carrying on Raoul Wallenberg's name, Mr. Tenenbaum has made a tremendous effort in keeping his spirit alive and carrying his message on to future generations.

Under the direction of Mr. Tenenbaum, the IRWF has undertaken a number of various endeavors to further the memories of Holocaust heroes, including Raoul Wallenberg. There have been a number of statues raised and countless exhibits displayed around the world as a result of IRWF's efforts, honoring keepers of humanity during the Holocaust. In addition, Wallenberg has been honored throughout the world with commemorative postage stamps,

and a number of streets and schools named in his honor. The IRWF's goals for these initiatives in honor of Wallenberg and other Holocaust heroes is to stimulate the educational authorities in dozens of countries to teach not only the stories of the Holocaust, but also the stories of the heroes that emerged from the horrors. By educating future generations about the plight of Holocaust heroes like Wallenberg, perhaps they will adopt just a fraction of the humanitarian values these brave men and women held.

Mr. Speaker, at the age of 67, Mr. Tenenbaum has never received a salary nor any other financial compensation for his work. He covers nearly all IRWF expenses himself and he devotes all his time to the Raoul Wallenberg cause. I am honored to pay tribute to this extraordinary man and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Baruch Tenenbaum for his outstanding achievements. This exceptional person is truly an inspiration to us all. Like the man whose legacy he works tirelessly to preserve, Mr. Tenenbaum is living proof that one man can make a difference.

A TRIBUTE TO EAST SURRY LITTLE LEAGUE GIRLS 16 AND UNDER FAST PITCH SOFTBALL TEAM

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the fine athletes of the East Surry Little League of Pilot Mountain's 16-and-under girls' fast pitch softball team. The dedication, talent, and hard work of these girls has won them a place in North Carolina's history as the very first North Carolina team to win a Little League World Series Championship.

After a series of wins, the girls of East Surry clinched their final victory against Kentucky to claim the title as World Series Champions. Their victory on August 16, 2003 in Jeffersonton, Kentucky is certain to be remembered with pride in the hearts and minds of North Carolinians for many years to come.

I commend the fine sportsmanship of these girls and wish them a future of successes. I am proud of their efforts in placing North Carolina among the states to hold a Little League World Series Championship win.

To Manager Breck Honeycutt, Coaches Mike Burge and Brent Hull, and players Samantha Smith, Haley Burge, Kate Jewell, Karlie Love, Beth Hauser, Megan Hull, Sara Bartlett, Catherine Mitchell, Lauren Angel, Brooke Honeycutt, Jessica Hauser, Rachael Brooks, and Ashley Simmons, I assure you that the people of Surry County, and indeed all North Carolinians, are very proud of your accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am not recorded on rollcalls Nos. 476 and 477. I was

unavoidably detained and was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcalls Nos. 476 and 477.

RECOGNIZING THE ARTICLE "REMEMBERING THE AWESOME LESSONS OF THE HOLOCAUST"

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to the article "Remembering the Awesome Lessons of the Holocaust" written by Rabbi Israel Zoberman. The article appeared in the *Virginian-Pilot* and *The Ledger-Star* on Saturday, June 12, 1993.

Rabbi Zoberman is spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach. Born in Chu, Kazakhstan, in 1945, and raised in Haifa, Israel, he is the son of Polish Holocaust survivors.

REMEMBERING THE AWESOME LESSONS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Visiting the recently dedicated official United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is not an ordinary experience, nor should it be one.

Along with fellow Americans, gentiles and Jews from all walks of life, I was conscious of entering upon sacred space. The resultant education experience, through ingenious multimedia presentation and architectural genius, exposes us to the unfolding stages of the Third Reich's evil, allowing us a closer reach to an unfathomable reality.

We are led on a journey whose consequences of disaster for the Jewish people and for humanity in general become increasingly evident at each turn.

Hitler's early threats were far from idle. What was dismissed as the political rhetoric of a novice was methodically translated into a program of genocide. Failure to stop the Nazi regime early on yielded the largest harvest of death in history.

Recognizing that the tragedy's magnitude is such that without personalizing it we risk losing it, we watch a tower of photos depicting the life of an entire community that is no more, from family gatherings and children at play to loved ones and pastoral calm. In two days of mass executions, 3,000 Jews, young and old, of Elshishok, Lithuania, where Jews had lived for 900 years, were slain. This was one among more than 4,950 destroyed communities.

Focusing on the shoes of gassed victims, my eye caught one belonging to a child. Who can remain neutral toward a little one's fate?

The video (hidden from view of those who could not bear it) of the medical experiments on live subjects—gypsies and twins were favorites—was ample proof of science's culpability and academicians' corruptibility. Yet, the inspiring example of the French village of Chambon, which saved 5,000 Jews, including many children, from round-up and deportation, shines through the darkness.

Watching on-screen survivors reminisce illustrated the power of witness and the sacred duty to preserve their essential legacy, as age diminishes their numbers, for the sake of those to follow.

At the tour's beginning one receives a passport of a person who encountered the war. Mine was of a man who expired en route to the Belzec death camp where many members of my own extended family perished. One identity card bears the name of a surviving relative, Gitla Zoberman (now Gertrude Kupfer), who lives in Richmond, Virginia.